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AN UNDESCRIBED RACE OF PHAINOPEPLA.

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A SERIES of Phainopeplas from San Luis Potosi recently received at the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy is distinctly different from the form occurring in California, Arizona, and north-western Mexico. The San Luis Potosi birds represent the typical form described by Swainson (*Animals in Menag.*, 1838, p. 285) and by Lesson (*Rev. Zoölogique*, 1839, p. 42). The northern form may be known as:

Phainopepla nitens lepida, subsp. nov.

Type.—Adult male, No. 200,653, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, from Riverside, California, 14 May, 1878. Collected by Frank Stephens.

Characters.—Similar to *Phainopepla nitens nitens* (Swainson) but decidedly smaller. This is shown best in the wing- and tail-measurements, the former affording the most constant character. Not one of the seventy-three adult males of this race examined has as long a wing as the smallest of the seven males available from San Luis Potosi. As indicated in the following table of measurements the wing of the male *lepida* averages only 92.3 mm. as compared with 99.3 in the typical form and similarly the tail measures 93.2 mm. against 100.7 in the latter.

MEASUREMENTS

Phainopepla nitens nitens (Swainson)

Locality	No. speci- mens	Wing	Tail
Males:			
San Luis Potosi.....	7	99.3 (98-103)	100.7 (96-105)
Durango.....	1	99	98
Females:			
San Luis Potosi.....	1	95	96
Vera Cruz (?).....	1	97	98

Phainopepla nitens lepida, subsp. nov.

Males:			
California.....	28	92.6 (88-96)	93.4 (87-100)
Lower California.....	21	92.2 (87-95)	93. (86-96)
Arizona.....	12	92.4 (89-95)	93. (87-98)
Sonora.....	12	92.1 (90-95)	93.6 (90-98)
Females:			
California.....	16	89.7 (87-94)	91.3 (84-92)
Lower California.....	13	91. (89-95)	89.8 (83-96)
Arizona.....	6	89.8 (87-93)	86.1 (82-93)
Sonora.....	5	90.2 (88-93)	88.8 (86-93)

Remarks.—I am greatly indebted to Mr. Outram Bangs of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy for his generous assistance in the preparation of this paper. All of the specimens described are in the collection of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, except one from Durango, which I examined in the collection of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoölogy.